papaya seeds in pepper, brick powder with chillies and argemone with mustard seeds;

(b) the number of such offenders punished in Delhi during last two years;

(c) how the offenders got scot free in view of spurious materials freely circulated in the market; and

(d) the measures proposed to make the laws more stringent for immediate action against adulterators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The requisite information to the extent available with the Government of NCT of Delhi is given as under:

S. No.	Item	Year	No. of samples lifted	No. of samples found adulterated
1.	Chillies	1997	41	11
		1998	16	6
2.	Peper	1997	3	1
		1998	—	—
3.	Mustard Oil	1997	13	1
		1998	318	103

In all cases where adulteration has been detected, prosecution proceedings have been launched. The cases are subjudice.

(d) The implementation of PFA Act rests with State/U.T. Governments. The Food (Health) Authorities of State/U.T. have been requested time and again to keep a strict vigil on the Production, Distribution and sale of food products, draw maximum number of samples under PFA Act 1954 and to ensure speedy action in filing complaints in the courts.

Action against those found responsible for adulteration is taken by the designated courts, after the prosecution proceedings are finalised.

Revival of Sick Sugar Mills

2829. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many sugar factories are lying sick in cooperative sector and private sector in the country.

(b) the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) what is the total loss accumulated by such sick sugar mills; and

(d) how Government plan to revive such sick sugar mills in any sector, whatsoever?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The Sugar mills in the country are grouped in three sectors namely, Public, Private and Cooperative. The sick sugar mills under the Cooperative Sector are not required to be registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and are dealt with by the State Cooperative Societies Acts. The sick sugar units belonging to Private and Public Sector are covered under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985. According to BIFR, 31 sick sugar mills in Private Sector have been registered with them as on 28.02.1999. Out of 31 sugar mills 1 mill was registered twice at different point of time. In view of that actually 30 sugar mills are registered with BIFR.

(b) The state-wise details of 30 sick sugar mills in Private Sector is as follow:

State	No. of cases registered
Andhra Pradesh	3
Bihar	3
Karnataka	4
Madhya Pradesh	3
Maharashtra	4
Punjab	1
Rajasthan	1
Tamil Nadu	1
Uttar Pradesh	9
West Bengal	1
TOTAL	30

(c) The Accumulated Losses, as reported by the 30 sick sugar mills in Private Sector at the time of their registration with BIFR stood at Rs. 282 crores.

(d) As per the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (SICA), where an industrial company has become sick, the Board of Directors of Company shall within 60 days from the date of finalisation of audited accounts of the company for the financial year as at the end of which the company has become sick make a reference to BIFR for determination of measures which shall be adopted with respect to the company.

The Cooperative sugar factories are not covered by the SICA. They fall under the cooperative Societies Act of respective state. The State Governments are expected to prepare suitable rehabilitation schemes for these units.

Revival of Sick Sugar Industry in Vidarbha

2830. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to * state:

(a) whether Government have studied in depth the increasing chronic sickness in Sugar industry in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, by broad indicators, State-wise;

(c) the details of comprehensive action plan finalised to deal with industrial sickness in sugar industry in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra; and

(d) the details of revival package formulated for sick units in Vidarbha region, funds provided/proposed during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) This Ministry has not undertaken any specific study on the sickness in sugar industry in various States. However, the sick sugar mills belonging to Private and Public sector are covered under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (SICA). Sick mills under Private and Public sector are required to make reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). The criteria to determine sickness under SICA for Public and Private companies are as under:—

(i) Accumulated losses should be equal to or more than the net worth (paid up capital plus free reserves);

(ii) The industrial company should have completed five years after incorporation; and

(iii) The company should have employed not less than 50 industrial workers during the preceding 12 months.

The cooperative sugar mills are not covered by SICA. As they fall under the Cooperative Societies Act of respective State, the State Government are expected to prepare suitable rehabilitation scheme for these mills.

(c) and (d) As per the information available the Government of Maharashtra appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Madhavrao Godbole on 12.8.1997 to consider the